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KINGTON URBAN DISTRICT

Herefordshire

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Joint

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and of the

Public Health Inspector

for the year 1960

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## MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

(As at 31st December 1960)

W.W.E. Cole	Chairman of the Council and Chairman of the General Purposes Committee
J.E.A. Deacon	Vice-Chairman of the Council and Chairman of the Water Supplies Committee
T.E. Bowdler	
P.H. Briggs	
R.H.G. Clapp	
W.L. Fowler	
W.J. Lloyd	
W.E. Philpotts	
R.H.T. Potter	Chairman of the Industrial Committee
E.R. Smith	Chairman of the Housing Sites Committee
A.W.C. Tedstone	Chairman of the Housing Committee
D.E. Thomas	
E.C. Thomas	Chairman of the Recreation Ground Committee
H.B. Vaughan	
E. Watkins	

Clerk and Chief Financial Officer .. A.J. Blatchford



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Public Health Inspector,

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KINGTON.

(Telephone: Kington 202)



To the Chairman and Members of the Kington Urban  
District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I herewith present my Annual Report for the  
year 1960, with the following comments.

#### Vital Statistics

The figures given show as last year a rather lower birth rate than in the country as a whole, and a higher death rate. These characteristics are those of a population with a greater proportion of older people, a fact confirmed by the higher specific death rates for cancer, heart disease and chest disease, all diseases of later years.

#### Housing

I would particularly like to draw attention to the increase over the last four years in the number of improvement grants made. Experience shows that these grants are a most useful way of prolonging the life of property and relieving the Council of the necessity of condemning and replacing some of the older houses in the district.

I wish to thank Mr. Allen for completing much of this report, and for his help in the past year.

G.D.K. NEEDHAM

Medical Officer of Health

STATISTICS AND VITAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres) .. .. .	..	..	..	857
Estimated mid-year home population .. ..	..	..	..	1,820
Average number of persons per acre .. ..	..	..	..	2.1
Number of inhabited houses .. .. .	..	..	..	637
Average number of inhabited houses per acre ..	..	..	..	0.7
Average number of persons per house .. ..	..	..	..	2.9
Rateable Value .. .. .	..	..	..	£19,431
Sum represented by a Penny Rate .. .. .	..	..	..	£76

LIVE AND STILL BIRTHSLive Births

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ..	..	14	13	27
Illegitimate ..	..	-	1	1
		<u>14</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>28</u>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Kington U.D. (Crude) ..	15.4	14.7	12.4	18.5	18.5
" " (Adjusted) ..	16.6	15.9	13.4	19.9	20.1
England and Wales ..	17.1	16.5	16.4	16.1	15.7

Illegitimate Live Births

Per cent of total live births:

Kington U.D. ..	3.6
England and Wales ..	5.4

Still Births

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ..	..	-	-	-
Illegitimate ..	..	-	-	-

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births:

	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Kington U.D. .. ..	Nil	Nil	80.0	Nil	Nil
England and Wales ..	19.8	21.0	21.6	22.4	23.0



INFANT DEATH RATESEarly Neonatal MortalityDeaths of Infants under 1 week old

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	..	-	1	1
Illegitimate	..	-	-	-

Early Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births:

Kington U.D.	..	35.7
England and Wales		*
* figure not yet available		

Neonatal MortalityDeaths of Infants under 4 weeks old

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	..	-	1	1
Illegitimate	..	-	-	-

Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births:

Kington U.D.	..	35.7
England and Wales		15.6

Perinatal MortalityStill Births and Deaths of Infants under 1 week old

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	..	-	1	1
Illegitimate	..	-	-	-

Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births:

Kington U.D.	..	35.7
England and Wales		32.9

Infant MortalityDeaths of Infants under 1 year of age  
(including those under 4 weeks)

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	..	-	1	1
Illegitimate	..	-	-	-

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 related live births:

		1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Kington U.D.	(Total	35.7	37.0	86.9	29.4	Nil
	(Legitimate	37.0	37.0	95.2	29.4	Nil
	(Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
England & Wales	(Total	21.9	22.2	22.5	23.1	23.7
	(Legitimate	*	21.9	22.3	22.8	23.5
	(Illegitimate	*	27.4	27.8	30.0	28.7

\* figures not yet available

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Total number of Maternal Deaths .. Nil

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births:

Kington U.D. .. Nil  
England and Wales .. 0.39

DEATHS

	Males	Females	Total
Total number of deaths from all causes:	18	20	28

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

		1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Kington U.D. (Crude)	..	20.9	19.0	16.2	14.7	13.0
" " (Adjusted)	..	13.1	13.5	12.3	11.4	10.1
England and Wales	..	11.5	11.6	11.7	11.5	11.7

Cancer

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Malignant Disease:	2	2	4

Cancer Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

		1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Kington U.D.	..	2.20	3.80	2.22	4.35	2.17
England and Wales	..	2.16	2.14	2.12	2.09	2.08

Cardio-Vascular Disease

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Cardio-Vascular Disease:	11	13	24

Cardio-Vascular Disease Death Rate per 1,000 estimated  
mid-year home population:

			1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Kington U.D.	..	..	13.19	9.78	5.40	6.52	5.98
England and Wales	..	..	6.00	5.88	6.07	5.84	6.00

Respiratory Disease (excluding Tuberculosis)

			Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Respiratory Disease:			1	2	3

Respiratory Disease Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year  
home population:

			1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Kington U.D.	..	..	1.64	3.26	3.78	1.63	2.17
England and Wales	..	..	1.26	1.53	1.37	1.38	1.35

CAUSES OF DEATH (all ages)

Disease					Males	Females	Total
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	..	..			1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..			-	1	1
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms					1	-	1
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	..	..	..		-	1	1
Diabetes	..	..	..	..	1	-	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	..				1	4	5
Coronary disease, angina	..	..			4	2	6
Hypertension with heart disease	..				-	1	1
Other heart disease	..	..	..	..	3	5	8
Other circulatory disease	..	..			3	1	4
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	-	2	2
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	1	-	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	..			1	-	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	..		-	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	..		1	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases					1	1	2
Accidents, other than motor vehicle					-	1	1
TOTAL					18	20	38

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE - KINGTON U.D.

Disease	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Whooping Cough	1	-	-	-	1
Measles	-	43	-	2	65
Scarlet Fever	-	-	1	11	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	6	-
Tuberculosis:					
Pulmonary	-	1	-	1	1
Non-Pulmonary	-	1	-	-	-

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE - NORTH HEREFORDSHIRE

Disease	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Whooping Cough	70	38	39	192	87
Measles	189	388	258	144	561
Scarlet Fever	23	46	28	71	42
Erysipelas	4	4	2	7	8
Acute Encephalitis:					
Infective	3	-	-	-	-
Post-Infectious	1	-	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	18	33	14	49	20
Dysentery	123	3	16	38	7
Food Poisoning	39	3	5	10	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	2	3	2
Tuberculosis:					
Pulmonary	7	13	7	33	19
Non-Pulmonary	3	2	3	4	6
Acute Poliomyelitis:					
Paralytic	-	-	-	12	1
Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	14	-

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN NORTH HERFORDSHIRE DURING THE YEAR 1960.

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Whooping Cough	5	1	-	-	5	3	6	16	25	4	4	1	70
Measles	-	2	3	123	52	8	-	-	-	-	1	-	189
Scarlet Fever	6	2	3	4	2	-	-	-	1	1	1	3	23
Erysipelas	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	4
Acute Encephalitis:													
Infective	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	3
Post-Infectious	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Acute Pneumonia	3	1	4	5	3	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	18
Dysentery	-	-	18	14	24	29	30	6	2	-	-	-	125
Food Poisoning	1	-	4	2	9	8	-	-	2	7	6	-	39
Tuberculosis:													
Pulmonary	-	1	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	1	1	7
Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	3



COMPARATIVE CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES  
NOTIFIED DURING 1960

Disease	North Here- fordshire	England & Wales
Whooping Cough	1.85	1.27
Measles	4.99	3.48
Scarlet Fever	0.61	0.70
Erysipelas	0.11	0.06
Acute Encephalitis:		
Infective	0.08	0.0003
Post-Infectious	0.003	0.0002
Acute Pneumonia	0.47	0.32
Dysentery	3.24	0.94
Food Poisoning	1.03	0.17
Tuberculosis:		
Pulmonary	0.18	0.46
Non-Pulmonary	0.08	0.06

TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Number on Register at 31st December, 1959	8	5	2	3
Moved into district	1	3	-	-
Number on Register at 31st December, 1960	9	8	2	3

Year	New Notifications	Total cases on Register	Deaths	Recoveries
1956	1	22	1	1
1957	1	22	-	-
1958	-	18	-	2
1959	2	18	-	2
1960	-	22	-	-

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946, Section 26Vaccination and Immunisation

Vaccination and Immunisation are a County Council responsibility, and the figures given below have been kindly supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health.

Numbers of children in the district who were immunised during the year:

Immunisation against	Age of child			Total	Reinforcing Injections
	Under 1	1 - 4	5 - 14		
Diphtheria	16	3	1	20	27
Whooping Cough	14	2	-	16	-
Diphtheria/Tetanus/Whooping Cough	3	1	-	4	-

Numbers of children in the district who were vaccinated against Smallpox during the year:

Vaccination against Smallpox	Age of child					Total	Revaccinations
	Under 1 yr.	1 yr.	2-4	5-14	15 & over		
	17	-	-	-	-	17	3

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, Section 47  
NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

No action needed to be taken under this section during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH CIRCUMSTANCES AND INSPECTIONSWATER SUPPLY

The source of this supply is a spring at Crooked Well augmented in dry periods from a borehole nearby.

The water supply has been satisfactory in quality and has remained reasonably satisfactory in quantity during the year.

Prior to the Herefordshire Water Board taking over the Kington supply on the 1st April 1960, improvements were carried out to the distribution main so as to afford a more adequate supply to consumers in the Cutterbach area.

WATER SUPPLY (Continued)

A shortage of water was experienced due to the failure of electric motors driving pumps to "cut-in" following a failure in power supply. This shortage emphasized the fact that there is insufficient capacity for the storage of water in the reservoir feeding Kington - the total storage capacity being less than two days' supply to the town.

Samples of water were taken from the piped supply after chlorination. Seven samples were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination. These samples were satisfactory.

No. of houses supplied by public water mains direct to house .. ..	605
No. of houses supplied by public water mains by means of standpipes .. ..	6
No. of houses supplied by private undertakings .. .. .	7
No. of houses supplied by wells and springs .. .. .	7
	<hr/>
	625
	<hr/>

SWIMMING BATHS

There is no public bath in the district.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Satisfactory progress has been made in the construction of the sewage disposal works.

Difficulties have been experienced by the contractor in obtaining and retaining skilled labour. The Consultants have therefore extended the contract period for the completion of the works.

The possibility of draining an additional group of houses at Crooked Well into the new sewerage disposal works was considered, along with the development of further land for housing. This scheme would involve the installation of a pumping station.

No. of houses connected to public sewer .. .. .	532
No. of houses connected to satisfactory private disposal works .. .. .	42
No. of houses using chemical, pail or earth closets with satisfactory disposal .. .. .	51
No. of houses using chemical, pail or earth closets with unsatisfactory disposal .. .. .	Nil



REFUSE COLLECTION

A weekly collection of household refuse for properties in the area is maintained. Business properties in the town centre have their refuse removed twice a week. A kerbside collection is operated and carried out by direct labour.

The bulk of refuse is disposed of by incineration. When the new sewage disposal works comes into operation the existing contact beds will be used as a site for controlled tipping, and the existing tip will be levelled.

Owing to the fact that there did not appear to be suitable land inside the district to carry out total disposal by tipping, the possibility of obtaining land outside the district for a controlled tip should be seriously considered. The existing incinerator should be repaired and kept in operation for a further period.

The condition and cost of upkeep of the refuse collection vehicle was considered, especially in the light of probable future commitments - increased quantity of refuse to be collected and probable further distance to carry refuse to the point of disposal - and it was agreed that a new vehicle be obtained.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The condition of the gentlemen's conveniences in Mill Street were greatly improved during the early part of the year, and these are now satisfactory.

Plans for extending and improving ladies conveniences were also approved, and it is hoped that this work will be started early next year.

A block of public conveniences for both sexes was built at the Recreation Ground during the year. These have been equipped with wash hand basins, which are now accepted as an essential installation in public conveniences, and it is hoped that the Council's decision to include them will not lead to abuse and unnecessary expense for their upkeep.

Enquiries are still being made regarding the possibility of erecting additional conveniences at the eastern end of the town. With the advent of these the requirements for Kington should be adequately met.

RODENT CONTROL

The Council have continued to carry out treatments to private and business properties in the town. Treatments to dwelling houses have been carried out free of charge. Satisfactory treatments are also being carried out by occupiers themselves, especially where infestation has been caused by mice only.

A maintenance treatment was carried out to the sewers during the year, and the refuse tip, incinerator and sewage disposal works also received treatments. Only minor infestations were reported.

HOUSINGSlum Clearance

Following the completion of the housing survey, it was found that 42 houses were seriously sub-standard. Undertakings have been received in respect of 12 of these houses in accordance with Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957. Some of these 12 houses and others which are sub-standard have been modernised and brought up to a fit standard for further occupation either with the aid of grants or at the expense of the owners.

Council Houses

The Council agreed to modernise its houses which lacked certain amenities, taking advantage of the grant aid offered in the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959. It was decided that five houses in Park Avenue be included in the first stage of this modernisation programme.

Crooked Well Site

The erection of new houses on this site has been proceeding very slowly and it is thought that these will not be ready for occupation before April 1961. This delay has caused the Council great concern as they have been endeavouring to meet their commitments in rehousing an approved list of tenants from the disused army camp at Hergest.

Private Building

Two houses and four bungalows were completed during the year.

Improvement GrantsDiscretionary

Seven applications were received for discretionary grants. Below are figures comparing the number of improvement grants with those for previous years.

	1957	1958	1959	1960
No. of grants approved	1	3	5	7
Amount of grants	£400	£500	£760	£2190

Standard

Two applications were received for standard improvement grants, and these were approved.

FOOD PREMISES AND FOOD INSPECTION

## Food Premises in the district:

Dairies	..	1
Slaughterhouses	..	1
Butchers	..	4
Bakehouses	..	4
Ice-cream Premises	..	9
Cafes, Public Houses, Stores, etc.	..	35

Slaughterhouses

Only one slaughterhouse has been licensed during the year. Whilst these premises did not comply with all the requirements of the regulations, the owner has indicated that the necessary work of improvements will be carried out so as to comply with the regulations by the appointed day.

Meat Inspection and Condemnation

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	15	45	1	264	141
Number inspected	15	45	1	264	141
<u>All diseases except Tuber- culosis and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	8	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	4	7	-	20	2
<u>Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses or part condemned	-	-	-	-	-

The cause of condemnation of the eight sheep was: general emaciation, extensive and severe bruising, and two carcasses which had been brought to the slaughterhouse minus heads and offal. The cause of condemnation of some part or organs of carcasses was mainly due to liver fluke and abscesses.

A miscellaneous collection of tinned and other foodstuffs was examined and found to be unfit for human consumption and was destroyed.



FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS - FACTORIES ACTS 1937 to 1959Inspections

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sec.1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by L.A.	15	15	3	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by L.A.	20	20	1	-
TOTALS	35	35	4	-

Cases in which defects were found

	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation	1	1
Provision of Washing Facilities	3	3



